5

Lowell Mass April 23rd 1868

General

In Consideration of my past Services in the Service, in part of which you are familiar, and having a desire to act in some department under Government I most respectfully make application for a Position in the Freedmans Bureau, If you should have such a position for me.

I Remain My dear Genl
Yours Most Respectfully
J P Thompson
Late Capt. & Provost Marshal
2nd Div. 20th Corps –

6

Treasury Department,

First Auditor's Office,

April 23. 1868.

Dear Sir & Cousin

It is not convenient or necessary for me to see you with Mr Baxter in relation to the cushions. You can ascertain what arrangements can be effected with him in relation to terms and time of Bind & payment. He will use the best ribs, heretofore shown as a specimen, or that of Bro. Romsey, now in your possession: and if the latter is cheaper and preferable, he will allow for the difference in cost. I am fully satisfied that it will prove to be our best interest and profit to have the seats below cushioned, with the best hair as given in sample, at an early day. This is the opinion of Bro Barber, Longley, and, (as I believe) yours and mine. Now any plan or arrangement that

you may suggest, on the conditions indicated, will meet the approbation of the Trustees; and, I hope the approval of the Building Committee. What is to be done should be done speedily, and well.

Please give Mr Baxter as definite an answer, as soon as you may, and have the question settled; and I think all will be satisfied

Very truly

D M Reese

R. 3. C. [illegible] 1868

First Auditor's Office
Washington D.C. April 23rd/68

Kelsey D.M.

Writes in reference to the cushions for the church etc. etc. etc.

8

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,

Personal & Private

Head-Quarters Assistant Commissioner, District of Virginia,

Richmond, Va., April 24th 1868.

Maj Genl O. O. Howard

Dear General

Yours of the 23rd inst is received in which you inform me that Gov Pierpoint charges me with having "treated him badly"

I believe the great fault I have committed in regard to the Ex Governor has been my efforts to sustain him and I challenge him or any one to bring forward any word or act of mine hostile to him during his official term as Governor.

He states that I have said to him that "he was the man to unite the Unionists of the State" I think this may be true as at one time I believed the Unionists of the state would rally around him. but I soon found that the loyal people of the State would

has been governed by an earnest desire to secure to them their rights under a constitutional government.

I am General with sincere regard

Your friend
O. P. Morton

not forget his betrayal of their interests in Sixty five

It may also be true that I have tried to unite the Union element on other men. if so in this I claim to have performed only a plain duty

The trouble has been that the men who have tried to place themselves in the position of leaders have all completly failed to gain the confidence of the Unionists as a whole. until Genl Schofield appointed Genl Wells to the vacant Office of Governor

Since that time the Union element of the State has been concentrating upon Genl Wells as will I have no doubt be shown on the sixth of May next at the Convention for nominating State Officers

I deny having done more in Politics than has been required of me by my duty to the Freedmen and can truthfully say that every action of mine that may have been considered "political"

Referred to Bureau of

Brown O.

Replies to the Commissioners letter of the 23d inst in reference to Ex Gov. Pierpont of Virginia

7

Savannah Geo.
April 24. 1868

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Washington D.C.

My dear General

Contemplate getting married during the summer and in order to appropriately celebrate the event shall desire a three months leave of absence to include August Sept. and October. During the said months business will be dull in office and were it otherwise Capt. Sawyer, one of our old Agents, could assume charge of the Sub. Dist with credit to all concerned. Maj Lewis and Gen Sibley have unhesitatingly promised to recommend my application for said leave. but to make its success more certain I have deemed it best to make this statement of my reasons to you. Have now been three years without a leave, and in continuous service. Could you order me to Washington and grant the Leave from that point the

over

[illegible]

favor would be highly appreciated
with inward thanks for previous
favors I am as ever
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant.
J. Murray Hoag
Bvt. Capt. U.S.A. + F.A.C.

P.S.
Please let me hear from this at your convenience

Ac. 7. C.O. R. Vol. 1868

Savannah Georgia
April 21st 1868.

Hodg J Murray
Brev. Capt. U.S.A.
S.A. Comr

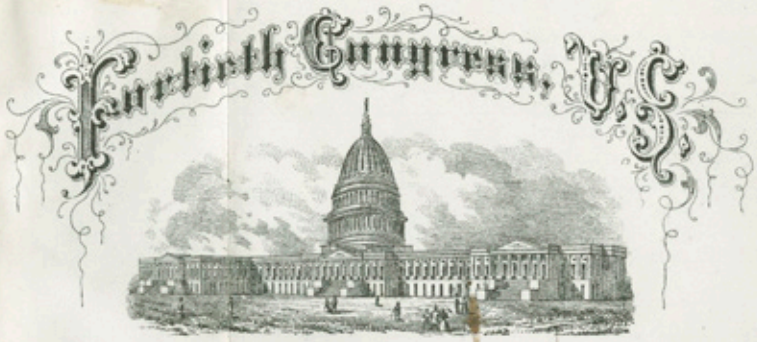
Proposes to get married during the summer, and shall therefore ask for three (3) months leave of absence beginning 1st of August. There will be very little for him to do during that time. Capt. Sawyer will assume charge of his District.

He has not had leave for three years.

Could he be ordered to Washington and have the leave granted from that place.

Maj Lewis and Col. Sibley will approve his application.

10



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Washington, D.C. April 25th 1868.

My Dear General -

If you can, consistently with your duty, possibly send T. K. Pegram, now at Greenville Miss to some more healthy locality I wish you would do so -

I am acquainted with him, & believe him a faithful officer - His sister informs me that his health is suffering greatly where

he now is, on account
of the Climate & the Water.
He is too poor to resign,
and too sick to stay.

Truly Yours

J. B. Bannworth

F. 1. A. & R. Vol. 1. 1868

Hon. Rep. Washington Co.
April 25th 1868

Famous A. J. F.
Miles

Requests that the Commissioner transfer J. K. Preuss, Agent at Greenville Miss, to some more healthy locality, etc, etc,

Refer Mississippi Freds

, F, &c., Miss., 93 1868.

1868.

Bureau State of Miss.
MAY 6 1868
Received

E. & M. page 34879.

BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN, AND ABANDONED LANDS,

OFFICE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR MISSISSIPPI,

Vicksburg, Miss., May 6th, 1868.

G. 2. O. O. H. Vol. 1, 1865

Respectfully returned to Major General O. O. Howard Commissioner Washington D. C., with the remark that there is so great a number of freedmen in the river counties that it is necessary that Agents be stationed there, Mr. Preuss being at one of the most important points. No Agent of the Bureau could be found who would volunteer for one of those stations, and I can see no reason why Mr. Preuss should be favored in this respect, especially as his pay has recently been advanced to $150.00 per month, which is, with two exceptions, more than any other Agent receives.

RECEIVED MAY 1868 PRIVATE

Alvan C. Gillem

Brevet Major General U. S. A.
Assistant Commissioner

11

Houston: Sept 25. 1868.

12

Genl. O. O. Howard:

Dear Sir.

I wrote you in July last — recd no reply — know you are busy — write again — was introduced at yr office March 1868 by Rev. Dr. Gurley & letter from Genl Gregory.

I write in the interests of the Freedmen of Texas. Their condition is bad & growing worse. Cannot something more than is doing be done for their benefit? Cannot the no. of their Schools be increased & those in existence be made more efficient? Cannot a larger amount of the evangelical element be infused?

I am a native of the South a Texian of 30 years residence — all my interests here — anti-slavery for life — have always felt an interest in Colored people.

I state, in strict confidence, that the condition of freedmen in Texas is bad — extremely bad & daily growing worse. The mutual antipathy between the races is great & constantly increasing. The conviction is general & increasing that the two races cannot co-exist in harmony. The natural & gradual Colonization of the freedmen in some S. latitude is thought desirable. Liberia is generally preferred. What think you?

Tho' a thorough Union man and a strong advocate of Emancipation I cannot see that so far as Texas concerned the moral & spiritual condition of the colored race is

better than before the war. I have strong hopes that in time my Girls will bring good ~~on~~ on the future out of their freedom.

Can Texas hope to receive any benefit from the Peabody fund? How? when? & in what way? Please write.

Should not the superintendence & control of the Freedman's schools in Texas be in the hands of an efficient evangelical Christian man? Is it now in such hands?

I should be pleased to receive from you as long & full a letter on the subjects above indicated as your pressing engagements will permit.

Yours Truly,

James Parke.

Address,

James Burke,

Houston,

Texas

NCH

mmission.

s Aid Society.)

with the people of the South,
r condition, upon the basis of
ools or supply depots shall be
because of color."—*Art. II.*

New Hampshire.

Hon. I. Goodwin.
T. H. Leverett.

Vermont.

Hon. C. W. Willard.
Hon. A. B. Gardner.
Hon. Luke P. Poland.

Rhode Island.

Hon. Seth Padelford.
John Carter Brown.
Gov. A. E. Burnside.
Prof. A. Caswell, D. D.

ding Secretary.
E, 43 Franklin Street.

Auditor.
ndicott, Jr., 33 Summer St.

ee on Correspondence.
. May, 8 Studio Building.
C. Stevenson, 8 Studio B'ing.
hild, Cambridge.
Abot, 11 Park Square.
Cummings, 9 Studio Building.
othingham, Buffalo, N. Y.
apin, 8 Studio Building.

ittee on Finance.
Brimmer, 48 Beacon Street.
icott, Jr., 33 Summer Street.
y, 14 Summer Street.
R Curry, 37 Franklin Street.
odman, 7 Park Square.
H. Esq., 28 State Street.
Hill, Esq., 3 Tremont Place.
inson, Esq., 40 State Street.
ris, Woonsocket, R. I.
s, Burlington, Vt.

F. Wallcut, 8 Studio Building,

duplicate copy should be sent

9

N. E. Branch Freedmen's Union Commission.

Recently New England Freedmen's Aid Society.

No. 8 STUDIO BUILDING,

Boston, April 25th 1868

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard,
Commissioner Bureau R., F., & A. L.

Sir,

The Committee of this Society for arranging a public meeting in Boston on Anniversary week, have secured the Tremont Temple for Tuesday Evening (May 26th) of that week; and Mr J. A. Lane, the chairman of the Committee has instructed me to inquire if your engagements would permit you to be present and address the meeting.

The Committee, and our Community generally, well understand your deep interest in the cause so dear to all our hearts, - the Education of the Freedmen of the South. You have manifested your sympathy in that cause and given your influence for it in a hundred ways, doubtless from a consciousness that in it were involved not merely the moral & political welfare of the Freedmen, but that of the

whole country as well. No man, therefore, can speak so effectively for this object as you can; your very name and presence would be a stirring and eloquent appeal for it. You see then how glad the Committee would be to have your countenance and good word at their proposed meeting, - provided that your duties and engagements at Washington, which, of course, must have paramount claims, will permit you to come North at that time.

Will you please favor the Committee with an early reply?

Very respectfully,

R. F. Wallcut

Sec'y N. E. B. F. M. C.

P. S. If you should be unable to be present with us, could you suggest any person connected with the Bureau, or with the Education of the Freedmen, who, speaking from a full heart, would help our meeting, and who could, if asked, come to Boston at that time?

Of course, however, your prominence before the Community in connection with this cause would make your attendance with us more desirable than that of any one else.

Charlotte April 26th 1868.

My dear friend

Your kind letter was received some days ago, and I now sit down to return my grateful thanks to you for your great kindness to me. I do not know what to say, for my words fail me. I can only say I am grateful deeply grateful to you, and can never feel thankful enough to you. for you have been my best friend and I with limited do admitting to show you my gratitude, but God has placed in such a condition that it impossible to do anything. I trust he may reward you, my little ones love you very much. I have worked so hard for the past three weeks that it has made me feel my back. and Eva is now quite sick in bed. she is getting beyond work and I do not know what I am to do when she is sick for I cant do anything to bring water and chop wood do my working and anything else. and I cannot employ a servant as I cant feed one; and I have been working my hard for the Baltimore Society, and am in hopes that they will continue to send the work as it may enable me to buy necessaries — I am so much obliged to you. Give my love to Mrs Howard.

Ever your truly Annie Lee

Charlotte N. C.
April 26th 1868

Lee Annie P.

Friendly letter in answer to recent letter of the General

140

Remember that new friends
it is pleasant to think of
shall always think
kindly of you, and
always regard
it we never
met under
better circumstances, for
a friendship
which might
have remained
forever unbroken

Yours Truly
Chas. Hilton

14

Gay Brook Ferry, Conn.
April 26 1868

Genl O. O. Howard

Dear Genl

I am in receipt of your letter, written in your own hand. I am gratified to receive it, - not that I needed to be assured that I had done right, but to exhibit it to those who have taken advantage of the ~~as~~ unpleasant position Genl Gregory tries to place me in, to insult and contemptuously treat me; I have from the first confidently asserted that I should come out all right in the end, and even in the darkest hours, - when Genl Gregory made regular trips to Washington & returned to Baltimore to circulate the most infamous falsehoods concerning me, I never faltered in my faith in ultimate triumph of

been deceived and practised upon. I am glad of your kind wishes, they are dearer

of justice. I do not desire, nor
intend to recapitulate, or rake o
old affairs, but I do most solemn
and sincerely warn you against tr
anything in confidence to Genl Greg
I have found to my sorrow and sur
prise that, though carrying a seem
prim exterior, he will stoop at
nothing to forward his own personal
ends; it is no pleasure for me to
say this, for no man could be
more sadly or completely fool
in him than I have been, and
I remember how he used to speak
of yourself, when ~~on~~ in one of h
pompous moods, and then go
down to Washington & fawn
crouch. I am justly indign
He knows as well as I do that
has done wrong, and willfully
attempted to injure my Charac
to shield himself. he has virtuall
admitted the same moderately

and I confidently expect at no far distant day to hear of your finding him out and repudiating him as utterly as I have, I again assure you I am not writing under the influence of passion or ~~mag~~ malignity, but with the calm judgment matured by reflection upon all the facts. I shall never cease to feel an interest in the success of the Bureau & it is just this interest that leads me to warn you, thus against ~~f~~ placing again the interests of the freedmen in such hands. You never can realize the extent of damage that man has accomplished but you can, and it is your solemn duty as a Christian man, and Commissioner, to see that the best men are employed to take charge of the Bureau

It is to you that the Freedmen look. Your name has become inseparably linked with their ideas of freedom & justice, and it is upon you that will fall a crushing weight of retribution if you fail to comprehend and appreciate the work which God has assigned you to. To mould, and culture this race of Embryo humanity, and fit them & their posterity for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship is no light or easy task, and it is of the utmost importance that those who authoritatively represent you, should be sterling men, who are willing to sacrifice place - name - personal interest & personal comfort for the good of the great cause of elevating and Christianizing God's poor down-trodden people, for they are His Children as well as we. You will pardon me for thus volunteering advice, when you remember that I have thus voluntarily given up a good situation, and been compelled to break up my household, and sacrifice my effects, and move away from Baltimore because I would do and say what I, (and every honest man among me) knew to be right, and I would report what I knew to be wrong, and injurious to the Bureau. If I had resigned, and left my duty undone, I would have been a shirk & coward. It was my work to remain until I had brought to light the foul doings that had been and were still attempting to be accomplished, and then be dismissed for my reward. When we meet before the "Searcher of Hearts" you will then for the first time see, & know how you have *